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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/733,859	12/11/2003	Gerd Hexels	LORWER P27AUS	8101

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EXAMINER

RUDDOCK, ULA CORINNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1771

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/733,859

Applicant(s)

HEXELS, GERD

Examiner

Ula C. Ruddock

Art Unit

1771

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/5/04, 4/5/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. Claims 17-19, 21-24, and 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 29716362 (DE '362) in view of Pusch et al. (US 4,308,882). DE '362 discloses a thermal camouflage tarpaulin that screens heat sources from recognition in a thermal image. The construction comprises a textile substrate with glass filaments. On one side there is a silicone elastomer coating containing aluminum powder and on the other side of the glass textile there is a silicone elastomer containing metal pigments. The textile is a glass fabric with plain weave. A plastic fiber system with polyester binding fiber can be used. The silicone elastomer is crosslinked. The metal pigments that are used contain chromium oxide. Regarding claim 33, it should be noted that the method of forming an article is not germane to the issue of patentability of the article itself. Therefore, the limitation of a "transfer coating method" has not been given patentable weight. A complete translation of this document has been ordered. DE '362 discloses the claimed invention except for the teaching that the coating containing the color pigments is in the form of a polyurethane coating.

Pusch et al. (US 4,308,882) disclose tents that provide protection against modern sight and IR-optical search methods (abstract). The fabrics used in the tents include glass fiber fabrics that are coated with polyurethane. The fabric has a weight ranging from 20-400 g/m² (col 2, ln 3-8). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have used Pusch's polyurethane in place of the silicone elastomer of DE '362, motivated by the desire to create a material that has

high strength. It also would have been obvious to have used Pusch's teaching of a fabric weighing 400 g/m² on the fabric of DE '362, motivated by the desire to create a fabric that is durable.

Regarding claims 28 and 29, it should be noted that the amount of aluminum powder and the amount of color pigments are result effective variables. The amount of aluminum powder directly affects the amount of heat reflecting properties. The amount of color pigment directly affects the visibility of the fabric. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have used 20-40% aluminum powder and 10-50% color pigments, since it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Boesch*, 617 F. 2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980). In the present invention, one would have optimized the amount of aluminum powder and color pigment, motivated by the desire to obtain a material that has decreased thermal radiation and increased heat reflecting properties.

2. Claims 20 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 29716362 (DE '362) in view of Pusch et al. (US 4,308,882) as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of Fels et al. (US 5,514,457). DE '362 and Pusch et al. disclose the claimed invention except for the teaching that the fabric is a twill fabric .

Fels et al. (US 5,514,457) disclose a textile structure for protective clothing. The textile provide protection against stabbing, cutting, fragments, and bullets (abstract). The textiles may be used in military applications (col 6, ln 65) and may be camouflage (col 7, ln 5-6). The fabrics may be made into twill or cross-twill weaves (col 8, ln 53-54) and col 9, ln 20). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have used Fels' teaching of a twill or cross-twill

weave fabric on the fabric of DE '362 and Pusch et al., motivated by the desire to create a material that has increased strength, firmness, and durability.

3. Claim 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 29716362 (DE '362) in view of Pusch et al. (US 4,308,882) as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of McKinney et al. (US 4,756,465). DE '362 and Pusch et al. disclose the claimed invention except for the teaching that the polyurethane is crosslinked.

McKinney et al. (US 4,756,465) disclose a lightweight tenting fabric that has a base coat of a urethane on both surfaces of a woven substrate (abstract). Pigments are also desirable in making the tents for military usage by using camouflage pints on one side and solid infrared reflective color on the other side (col 5, ln 12-18). The urethane coating composition can be crosslinked (col 4, ln 25-33). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have used the crosslinkers of McKinney et al. on the polyurethane coating of DE '362 and Pusch, motivated by the desire to coating that has enhanced adhesion to the glass substrate.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ula C. Ruddock whose telephone number is 571-272-1481. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel H. Morris can be reached on 571-272-1478. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

UCR

UCR

Ula Ruddock
Ula C. Ruddock
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